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THREE CENTS.

# GRIDIRON CLUB BANQUET

Men Who Have Made and Written History Were There.

THE PRESIDENT A GUEST

All Former Entertainments of the Famous Gridironers Were Outdone Last Night-The People Who Are Responsible for Running the Country and Many More Present,

The recent and remote ancestors of the famous Gridironers' Presidential banquets, whose astral bodies were undoubtedly present last night among the palms, intal ing the odors of a thousand flowers, the bouquet of the celebrated French widow, and the aroms of Free Cuba, had ample reason to sigh from their perches that they had not lived in this effervescent generation. There may have been Gridiron banquets which arrogated to themselves the title of excellence, but to none of them fell as to that of last night the function of re-establishing more or less white-winged peace from the Youiz Klosk to the White House, distributing American offices on the European plan or presenting the Ding ley bill in such shape as to make it acceptable to seventy two millions of people with divers views as to what is really the matter with this neguificent country. Hercules and his alleged twelve labors weren't in it compared to the achievaments of the Grid-Iron Club as constituted on this particular Saturday night of the year of grace and

Nearly everybody of any prominence, who has nad a head in bringing the country to its present easily intelligible condition, was present to answer for himself as to his share of the responsibility. The President of the United States was there and also his private secretary. The Comp-troller of the Currency was there, heretofore and existent; the Secretary of the Treasury was there, and also the private sary of the Secretary; the Secretary of Agriculture was there, sitting umbrage so to say, under the branches of the palma foliat a of New Zealand; the repre sentative of the German Empire was there the Secretary of the Navy, as was the Secretary of War, and also the Attorney General. The successor to Ambassador Bayard was there, Minister Mendonca was there, and a sence or more of men who have made history, and other scores who position it as it is made

It was the late Frank Hatton who said: "This, being a Cabinet office, is not such a fixed job, the old messenger tells you where to sign your name and the cierks do the rest, so you have time for a great deal of tim." And for lo. these many years about the pleasantest experience that the Cabinet officers have enjoyed has been attendance mon the quadrennial dimes given in their honor by this ociebrated. postastic Gridiron Chib.

Last night's dinner was no exception to its producessors. It was hearthly enjoyable from beginning to end, and for four hours, the members of President McKinley's Cabinet were ricidy entertained. The guests comprised many notable persons from this and other cities, and the pregram foll of surprising departures from precedent on the inside as to the significance of for which the club has long been justly this allegary. The temporary presiding

fanied. er was served in the large banquet hall of the Arlington Hotel—the permanent home of the club—which was decorated for the occasion. The club florist, Mr. J. H. Small, was fully equal hall rang with shouts of laughter. to his reputation, and the decorations were only unique and appropriate to Gridiron festivities.

The decoration of the dining-room was as lavish and as gargeous as any ever seen in Washington, or any place else, for that matter. The view from the door entering the east parlor was simply a dream without There were roses in bouquets, garlands, and in combination everywhere Cut roses filled hundreds of epergnes, dis tributed among the tables, and garlands of mixed flowers were festioned against the embrasures of the window were made the resting places for palms. many of the taller of these plants being disposed artistically at various places of floor. The tables were further decor ated with smilax and other green material, as were the chandeliers and every other place of advantage in the hall. The ceiling was fairly covered with evergreens, and these, with the heavy banking of palms, in window casements and along the walls, made a magnificent setting for the wealth of flowers on the tables. One of the par darly beautiful arrangements of the flowers was the combining of American Beauty roses and Easter lilies, which towered over the elaborate setting of the

The tables, as usual, were in the form of a griding, and the prominent guests were at the different promps, as it is a tradition that every member of the club is a McGregor and sits at the head of the tuble

As the guests filed into the room there were many expressions of approval o the beautiful appearance produced. No mooner had the guests been scated than the room was in total darkness. For an instant only and then the large electri gridiron flashed upon the wall, while Mr. A. J. Stofer song a rollicking song, in which the club joined. The other lights again appeared and the substantial business of the dinner began. But the fun began also, for the oysters had not disappeared before President Johnson an nounced a song by the famous Gridican quartet, composed of Messrs, Morsell Mosher, Kaiser and Hoover, accompanied by Mr. Xander on the plano.

This was not the only time the quartet appeared, and each time it was hailed with delight.

At 8:45 there was an object lesson in civil service, as a condition precedent for bolding office.

The proceedings were interrupted by a knocking at the door. Arthur Simmons White House messenger, impersonated by Robert M. Larner, was called upon by Private Secretary Conquest Clarke, at the request of the president, to ascertain the

cause of interruption.
Senators James Henry, Walter E. Adams John S. Shriver, R. J. Wynne, Reginald Schroeder, and Garthe, were introduced bearing the recommendations of Messrs. Raymond Patterson, of the Chicago Tribune; Alex. Mosher, and J. Harry Cunningham, as candidates for the po-Cummigham, as candidates for the po-sitions, respectively, of historian, musician and artist of the club. Being required to give evidence of the capacities of their candidates for the respective of-

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fices sought, the senators submitted some extraordinarily unverscious dispatches alleged to have been sent by Mr. Pat terson to the Chicago Tribune; claimed for Mosber the authorship of "Beautiful

factory, "Notary General E. B. Hay" was called upon to invest the candidates with the insignia of their offices and to ad-minister to them the oath of office, which he did with burlesque dignity. But at the last moment the president discovered that the candidates had not shown their pro ficiency in the regulation civil service bop, and they were required to bop to their scats, which they did amid universal laughter.

The president asserted that there was no occasion for a surrender of the gavel, be given a vote of confidence and his policy Kinley was received with great applause "But, Mr. President, where do I con-

m?" said the Napoleon. "Oh, you con't come in at all, as I can see," said the President stiffly. "You see, I have put all the offices including

my own, under the civil service." Some sharp colleguy followed, and finally the President allowed that he was going away to shoot ducks for a while, and it the newcomer wanted to try his hand for a time at preshing, he was not unwilling "But," he added, "I know you won't like the job, and I don't think you will suc

ceed, anyway."

The indication Napoleon then took the chair, and ordered the immediate restor tion of prosperity. Mr. Henry L. West, it the capacity of Secretary Forter, prompt ly produced prosperity—in the shape of the largest pie ever baked in Washington, ser haps in the United States. It was four feetin diameter, and was composed of eight separate pieces, each of which taxed to the utmost the largest overs of the largest bakery in Washington. Mr. West, dresses as a porter, drew a big butcher's cleave and essayed to divide the prodigious pi among the guests. Mr. Dunn protester against Mr. West as the proper function ary, he being only a clerk, and that the pis should properly be distributed by that great leader, Senator Hanna, whereat there was great applause.

Senator Hanna promptly declined the proffered task of distributing this pie; and the representative of Secretary Porter an for the duty had declined to distribute it, the pie must be considered a free-for-all The result might have been anticipated There was a "rush for the offices," as they say in the newspapers. A small army of officeseekers appeared on the scene, bearing banners, the legends of some of which were. "An office for every man and a man for every office Howlers," "Buckeye Pic Enters," the "Prosperity Phalanx," "We want pie," and various other commentaries on the "text of the bill."

This army advanced to the attack, seizo the literal and ligurative pie and fore officer gave up the job of seeing that the distribution was fairly made when

There was another incident of equa significance and entertainment time after the parable of the pie, a member of the club appeared, bearing a huge scroll, entitled the "Dingley Tariff Bill." He proceeded to cross the floor with this loaded document, when he wa

challenged.

was asked "I am just going over to the Senate with my tariff bill," he replied, and went out the main door. Instantly there arose without a great commotion, and when the member returned with his bill it was in shreds, his coat was torn, and his but was battered into an unrecognizable recalling the condition of Stuart Robso after his first visit to the stock exchange The member simply but eloquently "re orted back to the House." "Mr. Speaker I have been there."

These two were only two of the many ways in which the Gridironers gave of ject lessons in current politics and the ways and means by which a country be comes great and stays great under any and all circumstances.

keenly suggestive in the exhibition of a portrait of Senator Hanna, inscribed: "You

Smith, of Philadelphia; Speaker Reed, and

Senator Hanna. There was music and plenty of it of a high order. The famous Gridiron Quartet and Mr. Stofer and Mr. Robert M. Larner furnished songs, topical and otherwise to the critical satisfaction of professiona critics, this program having been concluded by a fine rendition by Mr. Herdo

Heart." The occasion of 1897 was the crowning effort of all the years. No banquet was richer in suggestion, more exquisite in humor, more pleasing to bost and guest more fruitful of glorious memories than that which was had last night at the Arlington Hotel. The Griditon Cleb of which it has been said with as much truth as poetry that none but itself can be itparallel, can also be said to have performed the miracle of baving surpassed its for

mer achievements. The guests were the President of the United States, Dr. S. S. Adams, Washington: Senator Nelson W. Aldrich, Rhode Island; R. C. Alexander, New York; Gen Russell A. Alger, Secretary of War; Rep-Senator William B. Allison, Iowa; R. E. Annin, New York; Representative Clifto B. Beach, Ohio; Dr. Edward Bedloe, Phila delphia; James Boyle, Ohio; Charles A Boynton, Washington; Major Fred. Brackett, Washington; Samuel M. Bryan Washington; W. H. Bornett, Washington Julius C. Burrows, Michigan; Charles C. Carlton, Washington; Senator Thomas H. Carter, Montana; Frank H. Chappell, New London, Conn.; Representa-

Continued on Second Page

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Snow," and exhibited some very funny cartoons drawn by Mr. Conninghata.

This examination being deemed satis

Another special feature of the evening was the spectacular restoration of prosperity After the distinguished company had passed from eigars to the discussion of the mellow vintage of the Widow Cliquot, the otchestra suddenly struck up the "Marseillaise," the great French patriotic song. This was a red Republican song, but it served to introduce to the company a member of the club arrayed like the First Emperor, who advanced to the presiding officer's clour and demanded the gavel cause his own administration had been indorsed. This veiled reference to the approval of the Cleveland Administration and its indersement by the election of Mc

it to tacces, amid the applause of thus

"Where are you going?" the member

There was something exquisitely and

There were speeches, of course, but, in accordance with a rule that has never been broken, they were not reported. Of these there were some especially inter-esting, as those of Mr. Charles Emory

Morsell of "The Song that Reached My



THE NATIONAL CONCLUSION.

UNCLE SAM: "Thank the Lord they've left me my apatite, however they spell it."

### THE VICTORIOUS CRETANS

Have Captured All Strongholds, Save One, Around Canea.

One Town Still Holds Out-It Controls the Spring That Suplies the Capital.

Canea, March 27.-Notwithstanding the support furnished the Turks by the foreign fleets, the Christian insurgents have captured all the strategic positions around this city, except the town of Outsonnaria. which commands the spring that supplies Canca with water. Special efforts will be made to prevent the capture of Outsonnaria, for if it should fall into the hands of the insurgents they would, by being able

to cut off the water supply, be practically masters of Canea. Cannonading was heard throughout the day in the direction of Alikiano, where is situated the camp of Col. Vassos, the commander of the Greek army of occu-The firing added to the fears of the Moslems here, who thought that the insurgents and Greek troops had combined and would make an attack upon

The Moslem refugees have little faith it the ability of the powers to save them should such an attack be made, but there is really scarcely any danger that the Greek troops will advance nearer the town than they are now. No explanation of the firing has been

CROWDS SHOUTED FOR WAR. Wildest Enthusiasm on Departure of the Crown Prince.

London, March 27.-The Sun will tonorrow publish a dispatch from Athens saying that Crown Prince Constanting finally started for the frontier of Thessaly this evening. There was a pathetic part ing between himself and the members of his family, all seeming to fully realize the import of the undertaking.

The fact that he was to leave to as sume command of the Greek forces, which are now confronting the Turks on the frontier became known to the public some time previous to his departure.

The streets in the vicinity of the palace

were jammed with people, who frantically acclaimed the crown prince as he ap-

The wildest enthusiasm was everywhere lisplayed and the crowds shouted for war until they were hoarse.

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PATRIOTIC GREEKS SAIL. A Company of Volunteers Going to

Fight for King George. New York, March 27.-The French Line teamship La Champagne sailed this morn ing with 150 Greeks aboard. They are on their way to their native land, prepared to shed their blood in the impending fight

against the Turks. The patriotic party is under the command of Peter Socrates, who gave up his position as foreman in a wholesale drug firm in order to be of service to his country. Before departing the heroes were feted by their fellow-countrymenhere at the Parthe-

non, a restaurant. The Rev. Father Agathadoras presided over the gathering in the restaurant. he had blessed the 150, many patriotic little speeches were made, reminding those who were about to depart that they were of the stock of the brave band that had fallen with Leonidas at the defiles of Thermopylae.

#### GREEK ARMY IN THESSALY.

Soldiers in Fine Condition and Re

cruits Constantly Arriving. New York, March 27.-A special cable dispatch to the Herald, from Larissa says: Col. Makris, commander-in-chief of the army in Thessaly, is satisfied with the moral and material state of force under his command. He is at the head of 14,000 men, and has three regi ments of artillery, eight regiments of the line and light infantry, and two regiments of cavalry. The recruits still joining, however, will oblige him to undertake the fermation of an extra battalion per regiment, and probably fresh regiments

At Larissa the engineers and artillery ere rapidly finishing the earth bastions for the cannon which will cover the river. The only weak point on the frontier is the mountain pass on the other side of the river. In Thessalv the peasants are everywhere marching to the front to join the insurgents of Mace-These are led by a priest, who is preaching a crusade against Turkey number of wealthy Greeks are arm and also going to join the insurgents

One Vassilapoulo, a banker, from Athens, estimated the insurgents at 35,000, and stated that a plan of campaign was ready as soon as war is declared. spite of the excitement, the people are quiet, and Turks are circulating everywhere unmolested

The Floor Gave Way. Springvale, Me., March 27 .- At a largely

attended town meeting today to see about voting aid to the Mousam River Electric Railroad, a section of the floor covering 200 square feet crashed into the celiar with 100 people. Eroken ribs, sprains, and bruises were plenty, but no one was fatally

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RIVER SEVEN MILES WIDE. Thousands of Acres About Onincy

Ill., Under Water.

Quincy, Ill., March 27.-The Mississippi

River continues to rise here. With the bottoms all under water, the river is seven miles wide and thousands of acres of land are submerged. People have been driven from their homes to the hills, and those who have stayed in their houses are living in the upper stories, and are compelled to use boats instead of wagons. On what is known as Lone Tree Prairie. between here and the town of La Grange the only land in sight for four miles in any direction is the narrow embankment of the St. Louis, Keokuk and Northwestern Rail road. The water is almost up to the ties, and from the river channel a mile 5 way the trains look like some new-fangled steamboat plowing through the water. The flood current is extremely swift, and the wild rush of muddy waters is carrying down all kinds of debris washed out from abroad-logs, pieces of wrecked houses, see

A BUFFALO BANK CLOSES. The American Exchange Goes Into

tions of fences and the dead bodies of stock

In the levee districts the situation has

secome alarming, and a force of men b

working with might and main to strength

en the bank and repair weak spots that

have been discovered.

Voluntary Liquidation. Buffalo N. Y., March 27 - The American Exchange Bank went into voluntary liqui dation at the close of business today Those who are interested in the bank say the closing up of the business is due to the hard times and to the fact that none of the small banks in this city has been making money recently. The depositors will be paid in full on demand at the office of the Marine Bank of Buffalo.

The American Exchange Bank is one o the oldest of the banking institutions of the city. Ex-Postmaster General Bissell was attorney for the bank, and the Hon. John Weber, ex-Congressman from the old Thirty-third district, was eashier.

The Laurada Returns.

Philadelphia, March 27.-The steamer

Laurada, which sailed from Baitimore. February 26, for Philadelphia, and which it has been asserted, subsequently took on board a filibustering expediton and guns and ammunition for the Cuban insurgents, passed in the Delaware Breakwater this evening. Very little has been known of the movements of the Laurada since she left Baltimore, over a month

Deaths of a Day. Ralph Cheney, silk manufacturer, at Harb ford, Conn., yesterday, aged ninety-one Gen. William Cutting, at New York, Fri-

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## KNOCKED DOWN BY A WHEEL

Serious Accident to the Niece of Ex-Secretary Morton.

Failed to Hear in Time the Warn ing Bell of Cyclist Guest and Was Run Down.

Miss Mary Morton a cousin of former Secretary of Agriculture Morton, was knocked down by a bicycle at the corner of Fourteenth and L streets northwest about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon and seriously injured:

Miss Morton left the Portland about 2 o'clock yesterday aftermoon for a short stroll, in order to enjoy the bracing air. She had proceeded as far as L street, had started to cross to the opposite side of the street wher she was startled by the jungling of a blevele bell behind her. She attempted to get out of the way, but be fore she could reach a place of safety, was struck by the wheel, and thrown violently to the ground. In falling her head struck gainst the sharp edge of the curbstone, the blow inflicting an ugly gash on the beat

and rendering her unconscious.

She was carried to the office of Dr. W. A. Wells, across the street, and futile attempts were made to restore her to con-sciousness. Miss Morton was later talen in a carriage to her apariments in the Portland, and the family physician, Dr. Brombeaugh, was called.

The physicians labored strenoously to re tore her to consciousness, with the result that late in the evening, nearly two hours and a half after the accident, their efforts

vere rewarded with success.

The bicyclist who caused the accident called at the Portland last night and inquired after the sufferer. He seemed con siderably depressed at the occurrence and was greatly relieved when assured that Miss Morton was improving. He is

a young man named Guest. At a late hour last night Miss Morton was reported as resting quietly.

Miss Morton has been in the city for about three mouths, having come here visit to Secretary Morton and his sister Miss Emma Morton. She was to leave next Thursday for Nebraska.

French Officials on Trial. Paris, March 27.—The public prosecutor

has begun proceedings against Senator Levrey and Deputies Boyer, Nauquet, and Maret for complicity with Emile Arton, who is now under sentence of two years' imprisonment for embezziement, fraud, and heibery in connection with the Panama scandal.

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## FIGHTING TO SAVE LEVEES

A Great Struggle Against the Waters of the Mississippi.

#### MERCHANTS TO THE RESCUE

Sacks of Sand and Dirt Alone Prevent the Overflowing of Thousands of Acres-Great Fear Felt in the Lower Mississippi Regions River Rising in Many Points.

Greenville, Ala., March 27.-Today is one of feverish anxiety, and it may be said that the crisis is now on. The mayor has issued a proclamation warning all merchants to close their places of business today, and calling every able-bodied man to the leve

At this hour the city is almost deserted of merchants, and a brave fight is being made along the line to hold the great embankment. Special trains are being wast out on both roads and branches to bring recruits. Gov. McLaurin and the officials of the railroads are lending every as-sistence. The conciden is critical but hopeful

Junksen, Miss., March 27-F C. Nelson, of this city, who is largely interested in Delta farming operations, and is agent for many thousand acres of hard in the great valley, returned from Greenville last night. He says the water was over the levees proper jesterday evening, but was being held in check by sacks of sand and dort piled on top, and the heroic people were still hopeful of their ability to hold the fort.

The town of Greenville was then several feet below the water level, and one standing on the streets of the town could see the nulls of steambouts above them. The sight of so much water was simply appail-

DANGER PAST AT MEMPHIS. Only Unexpected Rise Will Excite Alarm.

Mcniphis, Tenn., March 27. With no alarming volume of water sweeping on from the upper rivers, and the river here and at various other important points on the decline, the acute stage of the flood is probably past. There is great unessiness, however, and not without cause, at Green

ville, Miss., and Helena, Ark, At the former place today there was intense alarm in consequence of which a call for volunteers went out from Gov. McLagrin, who has gone to that place, and the mayor also issuing a proclamation calling attention to the grave peril of the city. Both calls brought results, and a large sized army is combaling the water's en-

their efforts will prevail. The only weak place in the Mississippi levee, so far as Greenville is advoced, is at Australia, and there is confidence of hold-ing it up. At several points, however,

the water is finsh with lever tops, and in some places flowing over. On the Arkansas side a small break is reported at Boggy Bayon. It was doubt-less very small, for no alarm appears less very small, for no alarma appears to be felt. At Westiver, below Helena, there has been serious slongling, which may result in collapse. So much of the Medic levee as remains intert is being guarded by determined men, who say it shall not be cut by levce board officials or anyone else

THOUSANDS WILL HE HOMELESS.

The Waters Likely to Overflow

West St. Paul. St. Paul, Minn., March 27.-The Mile issippi River at St. Paul, lacks but four tenths of a foot of the danger point, ten feet, tonight. The ice went out at 4:30 this afternoon. The indications tonight are that the river will leave its banks in

the next four hours. A further rise of about four feet is expected here, which will drive about 7,000 people from their nomes on the West Side

and Bohemian Date. Water is running into the basements of several manufacturing establishments and stopping the machinery. It has been thawne heavily today and the prospects are

for another hig thaw temorrew DANGER LINE REACHED.

The River Steadily Rising at New Orleans.

New Orleans, March 27 - The water has steadily risen until the danger line was passed this morning and the water now touches the sixteen and one-half foot mark at Canal street.
All the merchandise has been renoved and

no danger is apprenented unless the water goes considerably nigher.

Crevasse Like the Mississippt. Caruthersville, Mo , March 27 - The eer is stationary here. The crevas mediately south of here, is now threerighths of a mile wide, and pouring as great a volume of water into the county as the Mississippi carries at the ordinary stage. Should the water go four inches it will overflow the leves

River Ten Miles Wide. Helena, Ark., March 27.-The river bere

s fifty feet, and slowly roung According to Government reports, the highest water is ret to come. This means great m to property. At the mouth of the St. Francis River, nine miles north of here, the Mississippi is at least tennilles wide.

Slowly Falling at Cairo. Cairo, Ills., March 27 - The river is fall-

ing slowly at this point. There is a strong breeze which causes high waves to break against the levees, and occasions some alarm, but it is believed the embankments are strong enough to withstand the swells Two Women Asphyxiated.

New York, March 27.-Two women and were found in their roo Flanley's Hotel, on Hudson street, this afternoon. They had been overcome by gas. The women were dead, and the man vas unconscious. He was removed to St. Vincent's Hospital The three registered at the hotel last night, as Mr. and Mrs Marshall and Mrs Alice Bayshay, of Boston.

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